

John McNeil Johnston

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Independent Composer, Performer

Production Music:

Formed Outland Productions with producer/engineer David Ruffo, creating innumerable music compositions, tracks, beds and scores for commercial purposes including custom scoring for corporate and instructional video, backing tracks for singers, needle-drop music, and film scoring. 1990 – 2002

Musical Theater Composition/Orchestration:

Composed music and lyrics for The Dancin' Fools with book by John Stix and Fritz Krieger

Composed music for The Adventures Of Lewis And Clark and Journey To The Center Of The Earth, books by Robert & Gail Deschamps

Orchestrations for Pip an adaptation of Great Expectations by Terrence Shank

Orchestration for Dandelion Wine an adaptation of the Ray Bradbury book by Terrence Shank

Ongoing project: Original Book, Lyrics, Music and Orchestration of Teach based on the true life story of Edward Teach AKA Blackbeard.

Education

Mannes College of Music, New York, New York:

Undergraduate: Piano, Theory and later Conducting major. Studies in Schenkerian Analysis with Edward Aldwell & Carl Schachter, Theory with David Loeb, Larry Laskowsky and Robert Cuckson, 20th Century Music with Leo Edwards, Piano with Marie Powers, Jazz Studies and Performance with Norm Grossman. Performance (as violinist) in Mannes Orchestra under Semyon Bychkov. Bachelor of Music, 1985.

Graduate: Major study in Composition with David Loeb. Master of Music, 1988.

Punahou High School, Honolulu, Hawaii:

Extensive study in composition and arranging with Oliver Stone, in addition to AP Music Theory. Arranged music for multiple shows and concerts including big-band and full orchestra arrangements. Two-year concertmaster, Concert Orchestra.

Teaching

Private instruction in violin, viola, cello, composition, music theory since 1999

Substitute in General music, Miller-Driscoll School, Wilton, CT, Fall 2014

Substitute Orchestra Director, Wilton High School, Wilton, CT, ongoing.

Performance:

First-call violin/viola/bass:

Downtown Cabaret Theater, Bridgeport, CT

Ref: Eli Newsom: eli@bridgeporttheatre.org

Next To Normal – Violin

Evita – Violin

Curtain Call Theater, Stamford, CT

Ref: Lou Ursone: lou@curtaincallinc.com

The Music Man – Violin

Little Theater of Manchester, Manchester, CT

Next To Normal – Violin

Wilton High School Theater, Wilton, CT

Ref: Chip Gawle: gawlef@wilton.k12.ct.us

Les Miserables – Principal Viola

Oklahoma! – Principal Viola

Fiddler On The Roof – Violin

American Idiot – Electric Violin

Christian Heritage School

Ref: Brett Flowers: bflowers@kingsmen.org

Willy Wonka & the Chocolate Factory –

Concertmaster

Hello Dolly - Concertmaster

Bye Bye Birdie – Concertmaster

Weston High School

Ref: Steph Gaumer: Mom4molls@sbcglobal.net

Carousel – First & Second Violin

Youth CONNECTION Musical Theater, Shelton, CT (1999 – 2012)

Ref: Gary Scarpa: centerstageshelton@sbcglobal.net

Sound Of Music – Concertmaster

Chess – Concertmaster

How to Succeed In Business – Concertmaster

Les Miserables – Concertmaster

Annie – Concertmaster

Kismet - Concertmaster

Children of Eden – Bass

Footloose – Bass

Hat City Music Theater

Hansel & Gretel – Principal 2nd Violin

Così fan tutte – Principal 2nd Violin

Jazz Performance:

Founding member, featured violinist, Swing 42 Gypsy Jazz trio.

Extensive free-lance jazz violin and bass performance.

Symphonic Performance:

Section violin, Norwalk Symphony Orchestra, Norwalk, CT (since 1999)

Principal 2nd Vln., Hat City Chamber Orchestra, Danbury, CT

Numerous free-lance performances.

References available on request.